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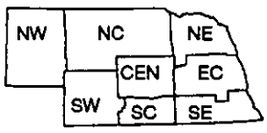
NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending August 4, 1991

Issue: 21-91 | Phone: (402) 437-5541 | P.O. Box 81069
Released: 8/5/91 - 3:00 p.m. | Location: 273 Federal Bldg. | Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UNL

WEATHER

Hot weather across the State early in the week came to an end as a cool front crossed the area Thursday and Friday. Showers were scattered throughout the period with light amounts.

GENERAL

Nebraska farmers and ranchers had the opportunity for fieldwork activities nearly every day last week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The hot, dry weather conditions this past week further stressed dryland crops and pastures. Dryland crops in some cases are not developing properly and some pastures are drying up. Irrigation systems continued in full swing trying to keep up with crop water requirements. Other fieldwork activities included weed and pest control, working ground for fall wheat seeding, and harvesting of alfalfa and wild hay.

CROPS

All corn condition declined last week and was rated at 8% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, and 9% excellent. Dryland corn contributed most to the decline as 25% was in good or better condition. Irrigated corn was rated at 82% good or better. Dryland corn continued to show stress and is in need of rainfall. Some southern Nebraska producers have had to cut fields for silage feed. Corn borers have been observed in the eastern half of the State with spraying active.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybeans were rated at 13% poor, 44% fair, 41% good, and 2% excellent. Walking beans and chemical weed control continued. Sorghum condition also declined and was rated at 21% poor, 47% fair, 30% good, and 2% excellent. Crop development has slowed with the continued lack of rainfall. Some fields have not headed out or are heading very slowly as this need for moisture hindered growth. Control activities for shattercane and other weeds continued.

Alfalfa was rated at 22% poor, 40% fair, 37% good, and 1% excellent. Third cutting activities are off to a good start although some producers are realizing a short harvest. Wild hay was rated at 12% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, and 8% excellent. Harvest remained active.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 77% of normal. With the declining soil moisture and lack of rainfall, pasture condition continued to deteriorate. In several areas producers are either already giving supplemental hay and grain or are planning that activity in an effort to extend what grazing they have available.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 4, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn silked	92	100	98	100	100	100	100	100	99	94	87	94
% corn dough stage	9	22	27	35	49	24	58	46	37	20	9	25
% sorghum headed	25	65	64	40	77	58	46	59	62	49	28	58
% soybeans blooming	0	99	92	87	97	100	68	100	94	76	85	93
% soybeans setting pods	0	37	36	27	52	48	19	47	43	24	19	50
% alfalfa second cutting	96	100	99	99	97	97	100	100	98	93	95	95
% alfalfa third cutting	3	14	10	15	21	21	21	22	14	6	28	23
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 2, 1991												
Days suitable	6.7	6.0	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.7	5.9	4.9	
Topsoil moisture - Short	73	75	94	100	95	38	100	100	87	69	28	
(Percent) - Adequate	27	25	6	0	5	62	0	0	13	30	69	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	
Subsoil moisture - Short	27	50	87	62	67	25	100	100	69	58	46	
(Percent) - Adequate	73	50	13	38	33	75	0	0	31	42	54	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for $15 00 per year to non-reporters. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

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P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

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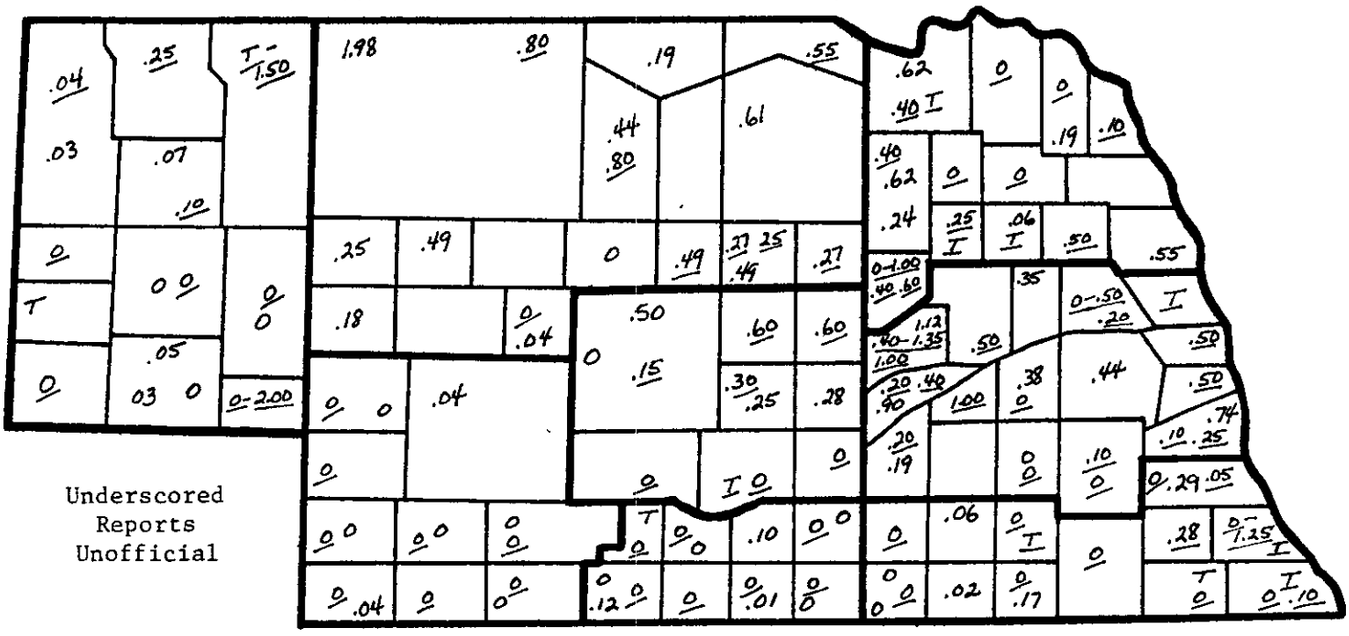
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1991



Precipitation, April 1 - August 2, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.02	.47	.38	.26	.52	.01	.03	.08
Total since April 1	11.37	11.81	13.56	12.43	16.47	12.98	12.84	11.29
Normal since April 1	10.36	12.31	13.92	13.20	14.58	11.34	13.22	15.20
Total as % of normal	110%	96%	97%	94%	113%	114%	97%	74%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 1991

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	100	55	76	---	.17	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	99	57	75	0	.04	1544	1701	1718
	Sidney	97	56	---	---	.03	1506	1653	1688
NC	Valentine	100	53	73	-2	.19	1685	1834	1737
NE	Norfolk	97	53	75	-1	.06	---	---	---
	Sioux City	90	53	74	-2	.03	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1785	1931	1967
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1804	1955	1911
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	1909	2062	2013
CEN	Grand Island	100	52	75	-2	T	1938	2102	1989
	Ord	96	53	75	---	.20	1829	1988	1971
EC	Lincoln	103	53	77	-1	.05	2085	2253	2072
	Omaha	91	57	74	-2	.48	2049	2213	1998
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	2019	2178	2033
	York	---	---	---	---	---	1987	2148	2090
SW	Imperial	99	58	76	---	0	---	---	---
	North Platte	98	53	74	-1	T	**1683	**1835	**1871
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1873	2030	2040
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2061	2218	2197
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1945	2098	2077

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.